

REFERENCE



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AMOS YORK.

Amos York, one of the oldest citizens of Bradford county, Pa., died in Wysox on Thursday, May 16th, aged eighty-four years seven months and nine days.

Mr. York belonged to one of the oldest families of Northern Pennsylvania. Previous to 1776 his grandfather, Amos York, with his family, had removed from Stonington Conn., to Wyalusing, where he had a comfortable home and a large family. In February, 1778, Mr. York was captured by a band of Tories and Indians, and taken to Canada, his stock driven off, and his home devastated. The mother and her helpless family made their way to Wyoming, and were in the Forty-fort at the time of the far-famed battle and massacre. Thence she fled to Paxton, and in October returned to her father's in Stonington, only to find that her husband had arrived there a few days before, and believing his family to have perished in the massacre, died of a broken heart. After the close of the war, in 1786 or 1787, Mrs. York and several of her children returned to Wyalusing. Here her only son, Manasseh Miner, united with the Presbyterian church, in which he afterward became an honored and useful minister. After serving the churches of Wyalusing and Braintrim for a number of years Mr. York removed to Wysox in September, 1809. While living in Wyalusing Mr. York had married Betsey Arnold, and the son Amos, the subject of this sketch, was born October 7th, 1793. While living in his father's family he removed to Wysox, which continued to be his home until the day of his death. In March, 1821, he united with the church at Wysox, then under the care of Rev. Lyman Richardson. This, like most of the Presbyterian churches of this region, was originally organized as a Congregationalist church, although very soon it had a bench of elders or a committee. November 29th, 1827, a faction of the old church withdrew and organized a Presbyterian church, of which Amos York was made one of the ruling elders. On the 15th of May, 1830, the old church adopted the Confession of Faith, Book of Discipline, and Directory of Worship of the Presbyterian church, and soon after the two factions were reunited, and Mr. York was continued in the eldership. The church was again divided, and a portion formed the Second Presbyterian church, which was connected with the Montrose Presbytery of the New-school branch. Mr. York remained with the Old-school branch, and was an earnest defender of the polity of the General Assembly in the celebrated excising acts. After the reunion of the two Assemblies the two churches of Wysox were again reunited by the Presbytery of Lackawanna. In this arrangement Mr. York was continued in the eldership, although on account of the weight of years he did not always meet with the session. This brief sketch of his life is sufficient to indicate the confidence reposed in him by his brethren. And it is almost needless to add that he was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and whose Christian character was above the shadow of reproach. His faith was simple and trustful as a child's, and his piety unfeigned. He loved the church of his choice with an ardent love, and is mourned by a large circle of friends. January 7th, 1813, he married a daughter of John Hinman, of Wysox, and had a number of sons and daughters. One son and one son-in-law are elders now in the Wysox church.

From, *Review*

Souardal Pa.

Date, *July 6" 1894.*

AN HISTORIC CHURCH BELL.

The One Used by the Presbyterian Society at Wyalusing.

The Wyalusing Presbyterian church recently removed from the old edifice to the new one, (which occupies a more central site in the village,) the bell, which is said to be the largest in

Northern Pennsylvania. The old-timer was made by Jones & Hitchcock, Troy, N. Y., in 1854, and weighs, without fixtures, between twelve hundred and thirteen hundred pounds.

In connection with the removal of this old landmark, it may not be amiss to state that the church bell which first broke the silence of the upper Susquehanna valley, was the one used in the Moravian Mission, in the Indian village, Friedenshutzen, ten miles below Wyalusing, in the year 1762, or a little later, it having been brought from Bethlehem, Pa., and conveyed through an unsettled region on horseback and by canoe the entire distance.

From, *Review*

Dushore Pa.

Date, *July 12" 1894.*

Probably the first church bell heard in Northern Pennsylvania was the one on the little Moravian mission chapel erected at Wyalusing 130 years ago. It was taken down the river when the mission was closed in 1772. This historical event is recalled by the action of the Presbyterians of Wyalusing in transferring the bell from the old church, where it had hung and summoned the good people to worship for more than forty years, to their new edifice erected in the centre of the village—the town having left the old kirk to one side in the outskirts. This bell was purchased in the early '50's, before the Lehigh Valley road was constructed through that county, and it required work to transport it from Troy, N. Y., where it was cast, to Wyalusing, as its weight was nearly three-quarters of a ton. It was carried by the Erie to Great Bend, thence via the D. L. & W. to Montrose Depot, and there loaded on a wagon and hauled overland to Wyalusing. The old bell is revered for its hallowed associations. Very few of those who aided in placing it in the old church steeple are alive to listen to its call to devotion in the new temple, but it has solemnly tolled at the funerals of

many whose labors in behalf of the church still follow them and keep their memory green with those upon whom their mantles have fallen. May its welcome notes long be heard and heeded by the people of the beautiful and historic town of Wyalusing.—
Athens News.

From, *Star*
Bradford Pa.
Date, *Aug. 2^d 1894.*

From many a district school-house in our favored land have issued youths of humble origin who, by their virtues and attainments have adorned society and honored their country.

A modest, unostentatious gentleman who of late has frequented our streets, was a graduate of one of those "colleges for the people" and his boyhood and early youth were spent in the obscure labors of a farm in Bradford county.

Our subject, the Hon. Thos. Ryan, was born at Oxford, N. Y., Nov. 27, 1837. In infancy he was brought by his parents to Bradford county, his father settling upon a farm in Franklin township. Here Thomas spent his boyhood days. At about the age of 17 years he came to Towanda and entered the store of Tracy & Moore as a clerk, in which capacity he served about two years. Being desirous of a more thorough education he went to Williamsport and took an academic course, after which he returned to Towanda and began reading law with John C. Adams. Although unaided in his pursuits of learning by industry, he acquired a sufficient knowledge of the law and was admitted to practice in the several courts of Bradford county, Sept. 2, 1861. In appreciation of his abilities his preceptor at once took him into partnership.

He continued the practice of his chosen profession until August, 1862, when he laid down his briefs and buckled on the sword to go in

defense of his country. Upon the determination to form a Bradford county regiment, he gave valuable assistance in recruiting, and upon the organization of Co. D, of the 141st, he was chosen its First Lieutenant. He shared the fate of the regiment in its hard fought battles until the summer of 1863, when being taken sick with typhoid fever he went to the hospital, remaining until some time after the battle of Gettysburg. After having recovered he rejoined his regiment and on Dec. 23, '63, was promoted to the command of Co. D.

On the morning of the 6th of May, 1864, while gallantly leading his company at the Wilderness in a charge against the 13th North Carolina troops, he received a severe wound in the left leg near the knee, which again compelled him to go to the hospital. The wound having healed so slowly and his health having been greatly impaired, he was in consequence reluctantly discharged on surgeon's order Aug. 6, 1864.

Having been married in November, 1863, to Miss Sarah, the second daughter of E. B. Coolbaugh, of Wysox, he returned to Towanda and resumed the practice of his profession.

Mr. Ryan having concluded to try his fortunes in the new West, went thither in 1865, locating in Topeka, Kan., then a mere hamlet, without a railroad. He had not been long settled in his new home when he was made county attorney, a capacity in which he served for eight successive years. From 1873 to 1878 he was Assistant U. S. Attorney for Kansas. He was elected to congress from the Fourth Kansas district in 1878, and re-elected in '80, '82, '84, '86 and 1888. Upon the election of Benj. Harrison to the presidency, he resigned his seat in congress to accept the appointment of Minister to Mexico in March, 1889.

This, one of the most important missions, he filled with credit and ability for four years, tendering his resignation March 5, 1893, and being succeeded by ex-Gov. Isaac P. Gray, an aspirant to the presidency.



HON. THOMAS RYAN

A BRAVE BRADFORD COUNTY SOLDIER, WHO HAS ATTAINED NATIONAL FAME IN THE POLITICAL ARENA SINCE THE WAR.

Since returning from Mexico Mr. Ryan has resumed the practice of law, having an office in both Washington and Topeka.

Having been in public life for almost thirty years he has a very broad and intimate acquaintance with public men.

Desiring rest and recreation, and still having a fondness for his old surroundings, he has a summer villa at East Towanda, where he and Mrs. Ryan spend the long warm days in enjoyment and quietude. It is, however, always a pleasure for the ex-Minister to meet his old friends and comrades, who in turn are proud of the once poor farmer's boy, who has made his mark.

From, *Sentinel*
Coanton Pa.
 Date, *Sept 7. 1894.*

THE SPENCER FAMILY.

Historical Sketch and Report of Their Annual Reunion.

The fourth annual reunion of the Spencer family was held in the orchard, on the old homestead farm in Union, on August 29, 1894. The weather was faultless, and at an early hour members of the family connection began to arrive in wagon loads, and before noon upwards of 250 had assembled on the

on the grounds to participate in the festive occasion. Friends were there from Springfield, Sylvania, Troy, Alba, Canton, LeRoy, Covington, Grover, and Union. The time before dinner was occupied in exchanging greetings, renewing acquaintances, and having a social and happy time generally. Some excellent music was furnished by Landon's band. When dinner time was proclaimed we found long tales set in the shade beneath the spreading branches of the old apple tree. They were loaded elaborately with all varieties of delicacies and fruits the season afforded as well as more substantial food. The tables looked very beautiful and inviting, arranged under the supervision of the ladies of the committee. In the afternoon the president of the society, G. W. Wetherbee, called the company together around the platform erected for the purpose, to listen to the exercises of the day. They were opened by a song by the choir, followed with prayer by Rev. Phoenix. President Wetherbee made some very appropriate remarks after which he read the 103d Psalm. Another song, followed by the reading of the following anniversary poem, by the secretary, adapted for the occasion.

From the well-springs of rivers, from the hill
side of Penn,
Grave men, sober matrons, you gather again,
And with hearts warmer grown, as your heads
grown more gray,
With a welcome to all, you have gathered to-day.
But the first greetings over, you glance around
the hall,
Your hearts call the roll, but they answer not all;
Through the turf green above them, the dead
cannot hear,
Name by name in the silence falls sad as a tear.
In love let us trust they were summoned away,
From the morning of life, while we toil through
the day.
They were frail like ourselves, had needs like
our own,
And they rest, as we rest, in God's mercy alone.
We are older; our footsteps so light in the play
Of the far-away school time, move slower to-day.
Here's a beard touched with frost; there a bald
shining crown;
And beneath the cap's border gray mingles with
brow.
But faith should be cheerful, and our trust make
us glad,
And our follies and sins, not our years, make
us sad;
And we, of all others, have reason to pay
A tribute of thanks on this bright August day.
On this green favored land in the years passed
away
Stood our fathers of old, where we stand to-day.
And that bold-hearted yeoman, honest and true,
In this fair land of Penn gave to labor its due.
There are moments in life when the lip and the
eye
Try the question whether to laugh or to cry.
And the scenes and reunions that prompt like
our own,
The tender in feeling, the playful in tone.

I would join in your joy, let me have a friend's
part
In the warmth of your welcome of hand and of
heart,
And at the feet of the Spencer's be permitted to
lay
On your festival's altar, my poor gift to-day.

Long life to the name, giving out year by year
Recruits to true manhood and womanhood dear;
Brave boys, modest maidens, in beauty sent forth,
Their sons and their daughters, in proof of its
worth

To Him be the glory forever. We bear
To the Lord of the Harvest, the wheat with the
tare;
What we lack in our work, may He find in our
will.
And winnow in mercy the good from the ill.

Next came the secretary's report, containing a historical sketch of the family, which was listened to with interest, and is published by request:

Looking backward nearly a century, we will try and learn something, if we can, of the ancestry of the Spencer family. As there are no records to be found what information we can glean is wholly from tradition. The first Spencer we have any knowledge of, was Ichabod Spencer, who emigrated from England to America and settled in Lynn, New London Co., Conn. What year is not definitely known. His family consisted of six children, four sons and two daughters, named respectively: Ichabod, Oliver, Charles Jewett, Polly and Lucy. He served in the war of the Revolution as Lieutenant. We are informed while making preparations to enter the service, it devolved upon his wife the arduous task of spinning, weaving the cloth and manufacturing him a suit of homespun clothing, in an incredibly short time. It also fell to the lot of the little daughter Polly, then a little miss of about 10 years, to knit his stockings; not stockings as are worn by the gentleman of these modern times, but stockings with the legs about 30 inches in length, to be worn with knee trousers, the prevailing custom in those Colonial days. Although she had only two days in which to knit them, persistently she went to work with a will, determined to accomplish her object, and did accomplish it at the specified time.

Polly Spencer subsequently married Stephen Sellard and moved to Pennsylvania and became mother to the older members of the Sellard family in this region. The Pennsylvania branch of the Spencer family owe their paternity to Jewett Spencer, Sr., who was born Aug. 6, 1781. He married Miss Sally Huntly. They removed from Connecticut to Pennsylvania about

Nov. 21, 1822. Stephen Sellard moved them all the way with horses and lumber wagon to the then "western wilderness." His family consisted of seven children, namely: Lynder, Amanda, Laura, Jewett, Jr., Hubbard, Judith and Sarah. Roxy and Maria were born in Pennsylvania. He settled in Union township, which then comprised the townships of Sullivan and Ward. It was then an almost unbroken forest, abounding in screaming panthers, howling wolves and other wild beasts and there were also all kinds of game, while the streams swarmed with different varieties of fish. It required stout hearts and strong arms to surmount the obstacles and convert such heavily timbered land into tillable farms. A spot was cleared and a house erected on the same place where the present house now stands. Among the first things he did after he began to improve was to set out an apple orchard; the same orchard where we now assemble.

Union township was not very densely populated at that time. It contained only seven families, among whom were the McNetts, Ruttys, Newells and Lopers. The Lopers owned and run a grist mill at Roaring Branch. The first voting place in this locality was at McNett; there were eighteen votes polled. The first school house was erected near Horace Spalding's. It was built of logs and had windows made of greased paper. The benches were constructed of slabs. The first school teacher was Alvin Thomas. It was customary in those days on Christmas or New Years, if they could induce the teacher out door, to fasten him out until he would treat. He invariably managed to procure some apples, which were a treat in those days.

Jewett Spencer, Sr., lived to see the homestead which he had literally converted from an almost unbroken wilderness to a fruitful farm, the habitation of plenty. He also lived to see the township of Union cleared of its forests converted into beautiful homes and cultivated fields, while flocks and herds can be seen on every hill. Churches, schools, mills and factories sprang up in profusion with the march of progress, while time moved on. He lived on his farm forty-eight years, surrounded by his children and grandchildren and died Dec. 27, 1870, aged

86 years, 4 months, 21 days, and was buried in the family burial lot near his old home. His wife, Sally Spencer, died April 17, 1880, aged 94 years, 11 months, 21 days. Prior to his removal to Pennsylvania he served in the war of 1812. He also had 12 grandsons who served in the war of the Rebellion and participated in some of the hottest and most decisive battles of the war, among which were Gettysburg, Antietam, Winchester, Wilderness, etc. One of the boys, I think, deserves especial mention. James Spencer, after having been shot through his body, which proved well-nigh fatal, when recovered sufficiently, again entered the ranks, when he was again seriously wounded in the thigh and captured by the enemy in the battle of the Wilderness; he was left on the battle field under a "shelter tent" with but little food, water or attendance, for twenty-four days, after which he was taken to those terrible rebel prisons and confined there 7 months, 5 months of the time was spent in that horrible prison, Andersonville. The other boys that wore the blue were Nathan Spencer, Lynder Spencer, Jr., William Spencer, Webster, Henry Spencer, John Spencer, Perry Kilborn, Delos Kilborn, George Spencer, William Allen, Henry Chatfield. Of Jewett Spencer's children only four are now living Jewett Jr., Sarah, Roxy and Maria. Amanda married Minor Porter, and died in May, 1842. Laura married David Chatfield and died April 17, 1844. Judith married Chas. Allen and died December 18, 1888. Chas. Allen died November 5, 1883. Hubbard Spencer married Miss Eliza Kilborn and died September 30, 1888. Eliza Spencer died March 28, 1883. Lynder Spencer married Miss Betsy Stuart, who died March 30, 1862, he subsequently married Mrs. Grace Young. Lynder Spencer died January 30, 1892. Harriet, wife of Jewett Spencer, Jr., died April 16 1862; he afterward married Mrs. Jane Booth. Roxy Spencer married Heman Kilborn, who died April 4, 1874. Sarah Spencer married Harrison Johnson, and Maria Spencer married Samuel Morgan. Of the lineal descendants of Jewett and Sally Spencer now living, are 4 children, 44 grandchildren, 127 great grand children. The first reunion of the Spencer family

was held August 29, 1891. An address was delivered by Rev. Manus. of Grover; many friends were present from a distance.

The second reunion was held August 29, 1892. Addresses were delivered by Rev. J. L. Phoenix, of Troy, and Rev. A. R. Miller, of Canton. At this meeting the following officers were elected for the term of three years: President, G. W. Wetherbee; Vice-President, L. M. Spencer; Secretary, Sylvester D. Forest; Treasurer, John Spencer. A committee was also appointed on arrangements.

The third annual reunion was held August 30, 1893 (owing to rain on the 29th.) An interesting address was delivered by Rev. R. F. Delmont, of Minnequa. Mrs. Eva D. Kilborn was elected secretary to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of S. D. Forest. About 175 were present.

Since the first reunion of the Spencer family was held there have been seven deaths, Lynder Spencer died January 30, 1892. Elmer Bastion died October 16, 1892. S. D. Forest died November 15, 1892. Mrs. Flora Manley died July 26, 1892. Lizzie Bumbridge died October 30, 1892. Mrs. Abbie Spencer died June 9, 1893. Edwin Porter died June 26, 1894.

After reading the foregoing the speaker of the day was introduced, Rev. J. L. Phoenix, of Troy. We had the pleasure of listening to a very interesting and instructive address delivered in his always pleasing manner. An appropriate hymn was sung, which closed the exercise. Adjourned to meet again at the same place, August 29, 1895.

Mrs. Eva D. Kilborn, Secretary,
Spencertown, August 31, 1894.

From, *Republican*

Towanda Pa

Date, *2 / 11 / 96*

ANCIENT HISTORY.

From our Mac Correspondent.

I have in my possession some of the early history of Towanda, Waverly, Athens and other places and also a lit-

tle history of some of the early settlers. Perhaps it will be interesting to some of the young settlers of Towanda to know a little of its ancient history.

On the 22d day of August, 1800, Benjamin Dorrance of Kingston, Pa., and John Shepard of Athens, became partners in a purchase of land of the Susquehanna company. This tract south of Ulster was surveyed by John Jenkins for the Susquehanna company and called the Township of Claverack. It was situated on both sides of the Susquehanna and embraced what is now called Wysox and Towanda. This property was called Mr. Shepard's "mammoth farm," the whole number of acres being 13,006. Eight hundred twenty-six acres were released to owners under Pennsylvania titles, leaving 12,180 acres.

The late Col. J. M. Piolet acted as attorney for Dorrance many years. Shepard & Piolet were quite often engaged in business together relating to this land; this was brought to a close in 1830.

The early settlers of Wysox were Coolbaugh, York, Morgan, Price and Pierce, and the mills of Myers gave employment to many. Hollenback's store near Breakneck road, in a log building, was the only store.

Meansville, or Towanda, was a single street for some years; a public house, a store, and Mrs. Gregory's school were about the only noted places. Mrs. Gregory's school was quite an attraction.

Mr. Gregory purchased two lots, Nos. 57 and 58, containing 177 acres in north part of Towanda, but could not get a patent from the State; he then sold his improvements. The lots were assigned to Shepard and sold in 1818 for 60c. an acre. There was a division between the parties in 1823.

Some of the early settlers were Means, Fox, Tracy, Hale, Patton and Bingham. The Bradford county seat was established in 1812, and the Barclay coal mines helped Towanda to a rapid growth. Some of the early settlers say Towanda in the Indian language means a town among the hills.

From, *Review*

Towanda Pa

Date, *Oct 23. 1897.*

SOME PIONEER HISTORY

General Sullivan's Famous Expedition
Up the Susquehanna.

MARCHED THRO BRADFORD.

The Diary of a Major Tells of the March
Through This Section, Then
a Virgin Wilderness,
From Wyoming.

To the ordinary reader of the history of colonial times, and to the younger generation of the present who read and talk of the deeds of the heroic pioneers, scarcely ever occurs the thought of really how intimately with some of these events at least the people of Bradford county are connected.

The bare mention of the famous Wyoming massacre brings a thrill of horror, and the recital of the cruel atrocities perpetrated by the savage queen Esther and her more inhuman white and half breed allies on the memorable first days of July 1778, yet causes the blood to boil. This crowning act of infamy rendered impossible all attempts at peaceful arbitration and General Washington immediately took steps to punish them. The result was Gen. John Sullivan's expedition up the Susquehanna, his victories at Tioga Point and in the vicinity of Elmira, the chief interest of the expedition as local history being the fact that the army passed through Bradford county. Washington's instructions to the commander bear date of May 31, 1779.

The army left Easton on June 18 of that year and consisted of the New Jersey and New Hampshire brigades and Proctor's regiment of artillery, arriving on the battle ground of Wyoming on the 23d. Then the route taken followed closely the river, except that on

reaching Wysox—then Wesawking—the army cut a road for itself across from that point to where Sheshoquin now stands, going over the hills behind table rock. There was 120 boats laden with the stores and cannon and a detachment of the army followed the west bank of the river to help protect them.

Many diaries were kept among the officers and men. The following account of the march through the virgin forest is taken from the diary Major James Norris, commencing upon leaving Wyoming the first week in August, 1779. Spelling and punctuation is copied literally :

"5 [August] Our next place of Encampment is Wyalusing, distant ten miles the Ground rocky and mountainous, particularly one tremendous ridge over which our right Flank was Obligated to pass, that seemed to over look the World & threaten Annihilation to our prostrate Troops—After leaving this place the Scene Opened into a fine, clear, extensive piece of Woodland; here the Genl. apprehending an attack, the Signal was beaten for the Army to Close Column this order of March was observed till we left this forest and gained the Summit of a very lofty Mountain; when another Signal was given for marching in files—From the Top of this height we had a grand prospective view of our little Fleet coming up the river about three Miles distance—The green hills as far as the eye could reach rising like the seats of an Amphitheatre and the distance of the prospect gave the River and the boats the beautiful Resemblance of Miniature painting—After marching abt. 2 Miles we descended into the low grounds of Wyalusing where every one was amazed at the luxuriant growth of Timber, chiefly Sycamore—few of the trees being less than 6 ft in Diameter; and to close this days march the more agreeably after passing half a mile of piny barren, the plains of Wyalusing opened to our sight covered with english grass, the greatest and richest Carpet that Nature ever Spread—There was once an Indian Town at this place consisting of about 80 Houses, or huts built in two parallel right lines forming a Street of 60 or 70 feet wide; with a Church or Chapel in the Center, the place of the town is to be seen in the old Ruins that remain on the Ground—The natives it seems had actually embraced the Christian Religion which was taught them by a Moravian Missionary from Bethlehem for that purpose in the year 1770, the

Connecticut Company having purchased the lands on this River, the Indians Retired farther Westward and left this place in the possession of a few Americans who have joined the Enemy since the Commencement of the War—notwithstanding the Settlement has been over run by the Savages and the Town burnt—the Susquehanna at this place makes nearly a right Angle, and forms a point on which the Town stood and where Genl. Sullivan's Army lay Two days encamped—.”

“8th. Sunday morning, 7 o'clock, moved on towards Tioga, and Encamped on a low piece of ground by the River, where there has been a settlement, & four families dwelt in the year 1775. This place is called Standing Stone Bottom—Capt. Spalding who commands the Independent Company in Genl. Hood's light Troops, lived at this place—distance ten miles.

“9. Marched at 6 this morning and halted to breath near a cold stream called Wesawking [Wysox], about three and one-half miles from last encampment—Then pursued our route without rest or refreshment twelve miles farther, the Weather hot and the men much fatigued, this brings us to She-shukonuck Bottom, a large meadow of 150 Acres, lying on the Susquehanna, covered with a vast burthen of wild grass. We rested here this evening.”

From,

Date,

Address
Philadelphia
Oct 10 '97

DAVID WILMOT'S GREAT CAREER.

The Life Story of the Famous
Author of the “Wilmot
Proviso.”

CHECKED SLAVERY'S GROWTH

In Early Years a Free Trader, He Later
Aided in Founding the Republican
Party—A Power in Pennsylv-
vania Politics.

Special Despatch to “The Press.”

Towanda, Pa., Oct. 4.—“Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist in any part of said territory, except for crime, whereof the party shall first be duly convicted..”

These famous words, known in our country's history as the “Wilmot Proviso,” engraved on a plain white slab, mark the resting place of one, who without doubt achieved the widest reputation in his day of any man in Northern Pennsylvania.

David Wilmot was born in Bethany, Wayne County, January 20, 1814. There he spent his boyhood days and received his education. When 18 years of age Wilmot removed to Wilkes-Barre and began the study of law. It is related of him as a student that he was indolent and averse to study, but that when examination time came around none of his contemporaries in the study of Blackstone surpassed him for legal knowledge and the manner and force of expressing that knowledge.

On his admission to the bar he removed to Towanda and soon became a conspicuous figure in politics, gaining a great influence over the people, with whom, it is said, he was always honest. He had a fine voice, an eloquent tongue and brought juries to his way of thinking where others more thoroughly versed in the law made no impression. He was possessed of a remarkably analytical mind, was a deep thinker and with his quickness of comprehension and ability to read faces, achieved a remarkable success.

For thirty-six years he was a dominating force in Northern Pennsylvania, practically controlling the politics of Bradford County, and continuously in receipt of the highest gifts in the power of his district and the Commonwealth.

He was a natural politician and he took the Democratic side of the question in opposition to General McKean and his followers. Soon he became recognized as a leader and in 1844 was elected as a Free Trade Democrat to Congress, and

was the only member from Pennsylvania who voted for the repeal of the tariff of 1842. In common with the Democratic party he favored the annexation of Texas.

THE WILMOT PROVISIO.

On the 4th of August, 1846, President Polk sent to the Senate a confidential message, asking an appropriation to negotiate a peace with Mexico. A bill was introduced in the House appropriating \$2,000,000 for the purpose specified. It had now become so apparent the movement was intended to strengthen the pro-slavery influence in the General Government that, at Mr. Wilmot's suggestion, a consultation was held by a few of the Northern Representatives who were opposed to the extension of slavery, the result of which was the offering by Mr. Wilmot of the celebrated proviso which has been so generally known as the "Wilmot Proviso," which provided that in any territory acquired from Mexico "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of said territory, except for crime," etc.

This proviso was adopted in committee

who talked against time and prevented its passage. While it is true that this made Judge Wilmot immortal in the political estimation of the time, yet in respect to the memory of the great Revolutionary fathers it should be kept in mind that this "proviso" is copied verbatim from Jefferson in Virginia's cession of the Northwest Territory to the union of States.

This measure, though lost in Congress, created a great sensation throughout the entire country, and it is alleged that it was the one thing which split the Democratic party upon the slavery question. Many of the Democrats of the district—Bradford, Susquehanna and Sullivan Counties—made a bold assault upon Mr. Wilmot for this and tried to prevent his return to Congress.

THE FREE SOIL ISSUE.

In 1846, however, he was re-elected on the tariff issue over Judge White, a high tariff Democrat, and again in 1848, mainly on the strength of his proviso. While elected as a Democrat he was a "Free Soiler," and supported Van Buren for the Presidency in 1848. In 1850 he again secured the nomination to Congress

DAVID WILMOT.



and the two million bill containing it was sent to the Senate, where it was killed by John Davis, of Massachusetts,

as a Free Soil Democrat, which resulted in a split of the party in the district over the slavery question. The pro-slavery

Democrats having put a candidate in nomination, at Mr. Wilmot's suggestion, both candidates withdrew and Galusha A. Grow, "Great Majorities Grow," was selected as a compromise and elected.

In 1851 he was elected Presiding Judge of the Thirteenth District, then Bradford, Susquehanna and Sullivan Counties, over William Elwell, the independent candidate, serving six years, or until 1857, when he resigned to enter the contest for Governor of Pennsylvania. His competitor, William F. Packer, was elected. The speeches which Wilmot made throughout the State in this campaign awakened great interest in the then new Republican party, and made him more popular than ever before. It is stated on good authority that he never once really expected to be successful in this contest, and in a speech made shortly after his nomination, at his home in Towanda, he said:—

"I well understand I cannot be elected, but the canvass will be the means of establishing a party of which the people will be proud and can rely upon." His prediction was verified the very next year by a Republican victory in Pennsylvania.

He was one of the "fathers" of the Republican party, in fact, the measures which he had proposed in Congress in 1846 were largely instrumental in bringing it into existence. In Bradford County he made the Republican party, having for his aides the late Miles Carter and many others, but few of whom are living to-day. Wilmot was a delegate to the Republican National Convention, held in Philadelphia in 1856 and was chairman of the Committee on Resolutions and drew up the famous preamble denouncing "slavery and polygamy as twin relics of barbarism." In the convention he was proposed as a candidate for the Vice-Presidency on the ticket with General Fremont, and could have commanded the unanimous nomination, but was averse to it.

In 1860 he was again a delegate to the Republican convention, held that year in Chicago, and was its temporary chairman. The Pennsylvania delegation was instructed to vote for General Cameron, but after one ballot he saw that Sevard would be nominated unless Cameron was dropped. The delegation, with Wilmot at its head, asked leave to retire and after consultation instructions were taken off, and on the second ballot nearly the entire delegation voted for Mr. Lincoln, which carried enough others on the succeeding ballot to nominate the great President.

After his defeat for the Governorship in 1857 Wilmot was appointed by Governor Pollock to the Judgeship he had resigned, and continued to act in that capacity until 1861, when he was elected to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of General Cameron, who had been selected as a member of the Lincoln Cabinet. At the outset of his Senatorial career, with the brightest prospects for still loftier attainments, his health gradually began to fail until he scarcely could attend to his routine of duties.

Mr. Wilmot was a member of the "Peace Conference" of 1861, and when coming from one of its meetings is quoted as saying: "There is no use, we cannot agree, and I am not sure that a war would be the worst thing that could happen to this country. I fear it is near at hand."

At the close of his term as Senator he was appointed by President Lincoln

a Judge of the Court of Claims, which position he held until his death.

David Wilmot was not an Abolitionist as is generally understood. He never claimed a place with Phillips, Weed, Garrison or Greeley, for he fought slavery a long time within the ranks of the Democratic party and hoped to maintain his influence in that organization while making the struggle. He soon found this impracticable. Without a doubt he had more to do with the creation of the Republican party and the overthrow of the Democratic than any other man. He was a powerful force in starting the conflict which finally resulted in the overthrow of the great evil of slavery. In the South his proviso made him hated by the slave-holder as an usurper, while the slaves learned his name and revered it.

He was a man of strong convictions and outspoken in the expression of his opinions—a man loving and greatly loved by his friends and vindictively hated by his enemies.

His great success naturally made him many enemies, and early in 1858 an attempt was made by certain members of the bar of Bradford County to have his district—the Thirteenth—legislated out of existence. His defense of the charges made at this time—that of favoritism and the making of political speeches in his own Court House—is a masterpiece.

From, *Review*

Towanda Pa

Date, *May 4. 1894*

PIONEER HISTORY.

First Permanent White Settler in
This Immediate Region.

ELIZABETH FOX. HEROINE.

Rudolph Fox's Indomitable Courage and
Perseverance in Founding a Home
at the Mouth of Towanda
Creek—Narrow Escapes.

Looking out from the swiftly moving trains of the Lehigh Valley railroad upon the beautiful Towanda valley and the delightful stretches of river and richly flourishing farm lands between Bradford's county seat and Wilkes-Barre, little can the traveler comprehend the state of affairs when the first white settler erected his rude cabin in the woods at the mouth of Towanda creek

and with his little family began the new life among the savage beasts and still more savage men.

Rudolph Fox was the first permanent white settler in this section and he came in May, 1770, buying from the Indians the land along the Towanda creek from the Susquehanna river to Monroeton. Later he secured further confirmation of his title from the colonial authorities, his grant being designated the "Fox Chase." Today his descendants occupy a portion of it. But it is with his heroic daughter Elizabeth this narrative has to deal. at the time of this story but 13 years old, yet daring to face perils that brave men might well hesitate before accepting.

The nearest civilized neighbors to the Fox home were the christian Indian towns at Wyalusing and Sheshequin. Life went well with the courageous pioneers for a few years and cattle and grain began to accumulate, but the red savages gradually grew more and more troublesome and in March 1777, Rudolph Fox, the father was captured and taken away to Niagara by the Indians. For nine long months his unprotected family existed as best they might, husbanded their store of provisions with extremest care and oftentimes going hungry all day and eating at night in the cellar for fear that prowling Indians would take from them what little food they had.

Fox managed to escape and made his way home in December. Danger from the savages daily grew more threatening and it was finally determined to make an attempt to reach the settlement on the lower river. Gathering his horses and cattle together, and placing his family and a few goods in a boat the little band started out. It was about the time of the battle at Wyoming and the country swarmed with hostiles, yet they escaped and reached Sunbury. At one point they met a band of warriors and abandoning the stock all took to the boat and hid behind a small island. The savages were very close and to add to their peril the baby of the family, little Rudolph, began to scream. So imminent was their danger that several times the mother was on the point of plunging her babe into the river as the only means of saving the entire party, but this heroic measure was happily not necessary.

The Fox family remained in Northumberland until the close of the war and 1783 returned to Wilkes-Barre. Leaving the mother there, Mr. Fox and

four of his children returned to their cabin on the Towanda creek. Here they found everything burned. A bark covered cabin was built and some simple preparations made for the reception of the mother and the balance of the family. When the father was ready to return to Wilkes-Barre, Elizabeth, then 13 years of age, was the only one who would consent to remain alone during the ten days thought necessary to make the trip. A more heroic undertaking cannot be imagined. A young girl—a mere child in fact—left alone in the virgin forest on the spot where their buildings had been burned, exposed to attacks from wolves and bears and more than liable to be disturbed by more savage men.

Arriving at Wilkes-Barre the mother was found to be too ill to be moved, and a weary delay of more than a month ensued. The store of provisions left for Elizabeth began to run low. A family named Forsyth on their way down the river from Binghamton stopped and endeavored to have her go with them. This the little heroine refused to do, but accepted a small store of provisions from them and stuck to her post.

For six weeks she kept her post and only when she had eaten the last of her food did she start out on foot through the forest for Wilkes-Barre. She had proceeded but a few miles when she met the family slowly ascending the river in a boat. The meeting showed the stuff of which the pioneers were made:

"Where are you going?" called out the father. "To Wilkes-Barre to get something to eat," replied his heroic daughter. She was taken into the boat and the family reached their old home after an absence of five years.

Elizabeth Fox was born in September, 1770, and was undoubtedly the first white child born in what is now Bradford county. She married William Means, the first settler in the limits of Towanda borough, and reared a large family, dying July 21, 1851.

From, *Republican*

Towanda R

Date, *May 5, 1898*

HISTORIC WALKING STICK.

Towanda Man's Prize Made From Commodore Perry's Famous Ship.

A. A. Jarvis of this city, on receipt of the news of Commodore Dewey's great victory at Manila, brought out a historic and valuable walking stick, a reminder of past achievements of the United States navy. It is an oak stick made from a piece of Commodore Oliver Hazzard Perry's flagship, the Lawrence.

It was made by H. B. Jarvis of Otsego county, N. Y., an uncle of the present owner, and was taken from the ship in March 1836. Silver plates set into the wood give Perry's famous motto, "Don't give up the ship," the date of the victory on Lake Erie, Sept. 10, 1813, and the maker's name.

From, *Rockex*

Wyalusing Pa

Date, *Sept 22, 1898*

EARLY MISSIONARIES.

Established a Church for the Indians at Wyalusing in 1760.

On June 26, near where Wyalusing now stands, occurred the first christian baptism to be performed in what is now Bradford county. The person baptised was Papunhank, a Monsey chief of some note.

A short distance below the village of Wyalusing near the Lehigh Valley tracks, stands a monument erected to perpetuate the memory of the men who first brought religious teachings into this region and their converts.

Count Zinzendorf, founder of the Moravian church, came to America in 1741 from Europe and established the Moravian settlement at Bethlehem. He is supposed to have been the first white man to set foot in Wyoming valley. In 1742 he came with an interpreter and proposed to talk with the Indians. They looked upon him with great distrust and it was proposed to assassinate

him. A few warriors selected for the purpose approached the tent of the unsuspecting stranger by night to accomplish their designs. Peeping through an opening in the tent they saw a huge rattlesnake crawling over his feet without doing him any apparent harm, while he was engaged in writing. Considering that he was protected by the Great Spirit they departed without offering him the least molestation. To this circumstance has been attributed the success of the Moravian missionaries among the Indian tribes.

In 1745 two Moravian missionaries named Spangenburg and Zeisberger made a visit to the Indians along the Susquehanna river. They found near Wyalusing the remains of an old Indian village called Go-hon-to-to. They learned that the village had at one time been inhabited by a tribe of Indians called Te-ho-tach-se, upon whom the Five Nation of Indians made war and wholly exterminated them, the greater part being slain, a few only being taken captive and adopted by some of the families of the Cayuga tribe of Indians. This battle was fought with bows and arrows and is supposed to have occurred not later than 1650, as in 1641 the Dutch at Fort Orange, on the Northern Frontier, had supplied the Mohawks, one of the tribes of the Five Nations with guns.

Zeisberger returned to Philadelphia in 1750 and induced Bishop Cammergoft to accompany him on a returning expedition. They were deeply interested in their church work among the Indians.

In 1752 Papunhank, a Monsey Chief of some note, with a number of families, came to Wyalusing from the head waters of Cayuga Lake and built a new town a little below the site of Go-hon-to-to and called it McChiwihiusing (or Wyalusing.)

In May, 1760, Christian Frederick Post, a Polish-Prussian and missionary of the Moravian church arrived at McChiwihiusing and established a church among the Indians. In 1766 the village was renamed and called Friedenhuizen, huts of peace. From 1766 to 1771, 206 Indians had connected themselves with the mission. The lands

on which the village of Frieden-
hutzen was located was sold by the
"Iroquois" to the Christian Indians
in 1766, and in 1768 sold the same
tract to the Proprietaries of Penn-
sylvania. The latter sale was for a
time kept profoundly secret from
the Indians at Wyalusing, who had
no intimation of the fact until Dec.
5, when it was told them by a trad-
er. Governor Penn had promised
that his surveyors should not run
lines nearer than five miles to the
village, yet in the spring of the next
year proprietary warrants were laid
in sight of the village. Afterwards
the whites began to push their set-
tlements up the Susquehanna, and
the missions became more exposed
to the irregularities, immoralities,
and illicit trade in ardent spirits,
which could not be checked, and it
was decided to abandon the village
and remove with the Christian In-
dians to the Allegheny river, which
was done in 1772.

To mark the spot of Friedenhut-
ten and perpetuate the memory of
the Christian Indian town a monu-
ment, bearing fitting inscriptions,
was erected under the auspices of
the Moravian Historical Society in
1871, which stands in an open field
about one mile east of Wyalusing,
at what is known as Sugar Run sid-
ing on the Lehigh Valley railroad.

On the northern face of this mon-
ument is inscribed, "To mark the
site of Friedenhuizen, McChiwihi-
lusing, a settlement of the Moravian
Indians, between 1765 and 1772."

On the eastern face, "This stone
was erected on the 15th day of June,
in the year of Redemption, 1871, by
members of the Moravian Histori-
cal Society."

On the western and southern face
"And my people shall dwell in a
peaceable habitation and in such
dwellings and in quiet resting
places. Remember the days of old,
consider the years of many genera-
tions. Ask thy Father and he will
show thee, thy Elders and they will
tell thee."

From, *Review*

Towanda Pa

Date, *Oct 26. 1898*

ORIGINAL INHABITANTS

The Beginning of Bradford County's
Authentic History.

"THE GARDEN OF ROSES."

Indian Names are Preserved in Many
Places in This Section and the Story
of the Aborigines is Full
of Interest.

It is a far cry from Bradford county
of today, with its large population, rail-
roads, factories, splendid farms and
busy life to the days when its only in-
habitants were wandering bands of red
men whose little villages were scattered
up and down the banks of the Susque-
hanna. It requires a stretch of the
imagination almost beyond the power
of this day's generation, but it is a most
fascinating story:

It is to Rev. David Craft of Lawrence-
ville, Pa., a former resident of the
county, the credit for preserving this
local history is almost entirely due.

When the white man first knew any-
thing of the country beyond the im-
mediate shore line the vast tract of
wilderness between the Mississippi and
the Atlantic and from the Carolinas to
Hudson's bay, was divided between two
great families of tribes distinguished by
a radical difference of language. These
were the Algonquins—original people—
and the Aquanoschioni or united people.
These latter were commonly known as
the Iroquois or Five Nations.

As early as 1620 the Susquehanna
valley was peopled and controlled by
the Andastes, the tribe being also
known by at least half a dozen other
names. They were one of the most
powerful of the Algonquin tribes and
planted their villages thickly from
Tioga Point to Virginia. At Sheshe-

quin, Wysox, Wyalusing and Mehoop—any the names of their towns have been preserved. For almost three-fourths of a century they waged an unceasing war against the Iroquois by which the whole Susquehanna Valley was made a battle ground.

In the spring of 1750 Cammerhoff and Zeisberger, the heroic missionaries of the Moravian church, passed up the Susquehanna from Wyoming to Tioga Point enroute to Onondaga to a council. When they reached Wyalusing a Cayuga chief in their party said the ruins of the town which they discovered was called "Gohontoto," and had been inhabited by a tribe which the Five Nations had wholly exterminated before the Indians had rifles. This could not have been later than 1650, says David Craft, the historian of the county, and may be taken as the beginning of authentic history within the boundaries of Bradford. This town was situated on the flats about a mile below the mouth of Wyalusing creek.

This point seems to have been abandoned as a habitation for nearly a century. In 1752 Papunhank, a Monsey chief, came to Wyalusing and built a new town a short distance below the old site. In 1760 this village was described as consisting of about 20 houses full of people. Three years afterward it had increased to about 40 houses and was called McChiwihilusing or Wyaloo-sing, but on the breaking out of the Pontiac war was abandoned.

There was an Indian burying ground near the Sugar Run ferry, a number of bones and other relics having some years ago been uncovered by the river. On the Wysaukin plain, called by Cammerhoff and Zeisberger the "Garden of Roses," from the profusion of wild roses which grew there, a party of Shawanese stopped for a time, built houses and planted corn but the date of their occupation is unknown.

The most interesting section of the county in this respect is that between Towanda and Athens, Tioga Point—the home of Queen Esther and the gateway to the great Indian confederacy, the headquarters of which was at Onondaga.

Another time will do to talk of that.

From, *Rocket*

Wyalusing A

Date, *Nov. 16. 1898*

GENERAL SULLIVAN'S EXPEDITION

Historical Sketch of His Memorable March.

Daily News.

After the Declaration of Independence the Six Nations of Indians, located on the Northern Frontier remained neutral until the following year, when England, to her eternal disgrace, offered rewards to the merciless savages for the scalps of our ancestors, her own children, resulting in a border warfare which for butchery and bloodshed is almost unparalleled in the annals of any other country. The battle and massacre of Wyoming occurred July 3rd, 1778, one hundred and twenty years ago, and yet the barest recitals are enough to chill one's blood with horror. The Continental Congress, after the Wyoming Massacre, determined upon vigorous measures to punish the Indians, who had been practicing the most cunning deception on the frontier settlers, protesting entire neutrality between the Americans and the British.

Congress advised with General Washington and it was determined to send a strong force up the Susquehanna river, and thence along the lakes of Central New York into the Genesee Valley, the heart of the powerful Iroquois nation, and lay waste and kill to their utmost power; kill the men and lay waste the lodges and villages; sieze the cattle and ponies and destroy their growing crops. In the Genesee Valley the Iroquois had advanced in the cultivation of the soil beyond anything known among any of the other Indians, and here the British could find abundant supplies for the

invading armies on the Northern Frontiers. To this end General Washington sent Col. Daniel Broadhead, with seven hundred men, into the western part of Pennsylvania to destroy the "Seneca" town on the waters of the Alleghany and advance north and join the main army on the northern frontiers.

General James Clinton was ordered to advance with one thousand men, from the Hudson river, in the northern part of New York, to Tiooga Point (Athens, Pa.) General John Sullivan was ordered to rendezvous at Easton.

The command of the army was first offered to General Horatio Gates, but owing to his advanced age he declined the arduous undertaking and the command fell to General Sullivan. Under date of March, 6, 1779, General Washington sent instructions to General Gates, stating that if he should decline to accept the command he desired him to forward the instructions to General Sullivan and that no time be lost. It must be borne in mind that those were among the days when railroads and telegraphs were unknown, and the only way of conveying instructions was by couriers along Indian trails and through an unsettled country. To the state of New York we are greatly indebted for an interesting report on the Sullivan Expedition, which was published in 1887, and which contains diary notes of a number of officers and soldiers who took part in the expedition, while the military stores for Sullivan's Expedition were being collected at Easton, Pa. in April and May, 1779. General Sullivan sent an advance detachment of two hundred men, under Major Powell, to scour the country between Easton and Wyoming Valley and reinforce the garrison of the old fort at the latter place. After the Wyoming Massacre a small force of soldiers, under the command of Col. Zebulon Butler, were stationed in the valley. On the evening of the 22nd of April, Major Powell arrived at Bear Creek and deeming it safe from an attack by the Indians, encamped there for the night. The next morning the line of march was taken up and when

near the summit of Wilkes-Barre mountain, close to the present residence of General Paul Oliver, they were fired upon by Indians in ambush and six of the party were slain, among whom were Captain Joseph Davis of the 11th Pennsylvania regiment, and Lieutenant William Jones of a Delaware regiment, both members of the Masonic Order.

The bodies of the slain were hastily buried where they fell and the spot marked. On the same day Major Powell and his command reached the Wyoming Valley. After the arrival of General Sullivan with his main army, and while waiting for fresh supplies in the Wyoming Valley, it was resolved on July 28th to remove the remains of Captain Davis and Lieutenant Jones from their graves on the mountain and reinter them in the Wyoming Valley in the public burying ground where now stands the Wilkes-Barre City Hall. June 24, 1867, their remains were again disinterred amid impressive ceremonies of the Masonic and military orders they were buried in Hollenback Cemetery, Wilkes Barre, overlooking the Susquehanna river, in a beautiful plot which was purchased by the Masonic Order, and on which a suitable monument has been erected to their memory.

June 18, 1778, General Sullivan began his march from the Delaware to the Susquehanna river, accompanied by the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Regiments of New Jersey troops, with an independent Regiment from the same State known as Spencer's Regiment. This comprised the First Brigade under the command of William Maxwell, Brigadier General. The second Brigade was commanded by Brigadier General, Enoch Poor and consisted of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd New Hampshire Regiment and the 6th Massachusetts Regiment. The third Brigade was commanded by Edward Hand, Brigadier General, and consisted of the 4th and 11th Regiments of Pennsylvania troops, with the following independent organizations; a German Battalion, Morgan's Riflemen and a regiment of Artillery. The route was up the Bushkill Creek from Easton, twelve miles to the foot of

the Blue Ridge, where they encamped for the night at Heller's Tavern, near the present town of Hellersville. The next stop was at Brinkers Mills, seven miles from Heller's, at what is now known as Saylorburg, in Monroe county. A large building had been erected at this place and supplies had been sent in advance and while resting here the army drew four days rations.

The next stop was at Neamed Log Tavern, nine miles from Brinkers, now known as Tannersville, Monroe county. From this point the road was rough and difficult to travel, and on the 20th day of June they were only able to proceed five miles, encamping at Rum Bridge, now known as Hungry Hill, Monroe county. On the 21st they were obliged to pass through a swamp 20

miles in length, which they termed the Dismal Swamp. At one point the overhanging trees, through whose shade the sun never penetrated, they called Shades of Death. The swamp was located about 12 miles from Wilkes Barre. The army remained at the northern limit of the Dismal Swamp until 2 o'clock on the following day, June 22nd, having been worn out by their tiresome journey of the previous day. General Sullivan appropriately name the place "Fatigue Camp."

The next encamping place was about seven miles from Wilkes-Barre, which was reached the same night, without any mishap. The following day, June 23rd, they reached the Wyoming Valley, having traveled 65 miles from Easton. They fully expected to find fresh supplies upon arriving in the Valley. It was found, however, that the meats had spoiled on account of being packed in barrels made of green lumber which soured the brine. The supply of clothing for the soldiers was inadequate. On July 21st General Sullivan wrote General Washington that not more than one-third of his soldiers had shirts to their backs. After waiting for over one month for fresh supplies, during which time the troops were engaged in building boats, with which to take their supplies

up the Susquehanna river, Lieutenant Col. Henry Dearborn, in his diary notes says, "On July 24th, 70 boats arrived from Sunbury with provision and stores to-day." On July 28th he wrote, "Col. Reid arrived with 80 wagons with provisions and stores from Easton." On July 31st the army took up its march for Tioga Point, Athens, Pa. where General Clinton, with his troops, was ordered to join General Sullivan.

Upon leaving Wyoming Valley General Sullivan had 214 boats under the command of Colonel Proctor, which were propelled against the stream by soldiers, who used setting poles for the purpose. In addition to these boats there were 1,400 pack horses bearing the supplies and provision, which moved along the narrow pathway on the east bank of the river in single file, forming a line several miles long. The first day's march brought the army, at 4 o'clock, to the mouth of the Lackawanna river, on the plains now known as Coxton, on the Lehigh Valley railroad. Here they were compelled to wait until afternoon of the day following for the boats which had been delayed by the difficult navigation. That evening they camped at Quilutimuck, now called Ransom. They remained in camp at this place the following day. On August 3rd, the troops marched across the mountain passing Buttermilk Falls, and about noon descended to the river and marched to Tunkhannock Creek, encamping about one mile up the stream.

On the 4th the army marched 14 miles, crossed the Meshoppen creek and encamped at Vanderlips, now known as Black Walnut. The boats were again delayed and the army did not move until 9 o'clock on the morning of the 5th. Part of the troops marched over the mountain, the others proceeded on the bank of the river. The next encampment was the same night at Wyalusing, on the flats, now known as Sugar Run Siding, on the Lehigh Valley railroad. They remained here until the 8th, being delayed by the boats and a heavy rain which set in

on the night of the 6th.

Their next encampment was at Wysox, which was reached on the night of the 8th. They were unable to pass through a deep swamp, which is now known as the Piolet farm, and is one of the most productive farms in northern Pennsylvania. The troops proceeded around the swamp and encamped on the side hill until the following day, when they took up their march over the high precipice, opposite the Lehigh Valley railroad station at Towanda, which they termed "Break Neck Hill."

The path over which they marched was very narrow and the precipice is several hundred feet high. They lost a number of their horses and cattle which fell over the hillside. The next encampment was at Sheshequin, about one mile north of Ulster, on the east side of the river; the settlement still retains the original name. A heavy rain on the 10th kept the army in camp. On the following day, August 11th, the army forded the river near the former town of Queen Esther, which was located on the flats near the present village of Milan, Pa., but was destroyed by Col. Thos. Hartley in 1778. The same evening the troops reached the junction of the Susquehanna and Tioga rivers, which was known as Tioga Point; now known as Athens, Pa.

While awaiting his supplies in Wyoming Valley, General Sullivan directed General Clinton to remain with his forces at Otsego Lake, the head waters of the Susquehanna River. During this time the dry season was fast advancing and the water in the river was getting low. In order to float his boats down the river General Clinton conceived the idea of building a large dam across the river and hold back the water until he was ready to embark, when the dam was removed, and the boats were sent down the river on an artificial flood. The damming of the river proved a wise measure, since it not only lessened the difficulties of navigation but spread terror among the Indians. The swollen stream overflowed its banks and the flood destroyed their growing crops. They could not account for the sudden flood in a dry season and believed that the Great Spirit had caused it to show that he was angry with them. On August 22nd General Clinton arrived at Tioga Point.





